

524,394

(12) INTERNATIONAL APPLICATION PUBLISHED UNDER THE PATENT COOPERATION TREATY (PCT)

(19) World Intellectual Property
Organization
International Bureau



(43) International Publication Date
1 April 2004 (01.04.2004)

PCT

(10) International Publication Number
WO 2004/026909 A2

(51) International Patent Classification⁷: **C07K 16/00**

BERG, Wim, B. [NL/NL]; Ridderlaan 12, NL-6584 CB Molenhoek (NL).

(21) International Application Number:
PCT/IB2003/005181

(74) Agents: SOAMES, Candida, Jane et al.; D Young & Co, 21 New Fetter Lane, London EC4A 1DA (GB).

(22) International Filing Date:
19 September 2003 (19.09.2003)

(81) Designated States (*national*): AE, AG, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, BZ, CA, CH, CN, CO, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, DZ, EC, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, GH, GM, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MA, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, MZ, NI, NO, NZ, OM, PG, PH, PL, PT, RO, RU, SC, SD, SE, SG, SK, SL, SY, TJ, TM, TN, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VC, VN, YU, ZA, ZM, ZW.

(25) Filing Language: English

(26) Publication Language: English

(30) Priority Data:
60/412,624 20 September 2002 (20.09.2002) US

(84) Designated States (*regional*): ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, MZ, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZM, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, BG, CH, CY, CZ, DE, DK, EE, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, HU, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, RO, SE, SI, SK, TR), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GQ, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).

(71) Applicant (*for all designated States except US*): STICHTING KATHOLIEKE UNIVERSITEIT [NL/NL]; Geert Grooteplein 10, P.O. Box 9101, NL-6500 HB Nijmegen (NL).

(72) Inventors; and

(75) Inventors/Applicants (*for US only*): FIGDOR, Carl, Gustav [NL/NL]; Westwal 54, NL-5211 DD Den Bosch (NL). TORENSMA, Ruurd [NL/NL]; Neushoornstraat 6, NL-6531 RP Nijmegen (NL). VAN LENT, Petrus, Leonardus, Everardus, Maria [NL/NL]; Waldeck Pyramontsingel 71f, NL-6524 BA Nijmegen (NL). VAN DEN

Published:

— without international search report and to be republished upon receipt of that report

For two-letter codes and other abbreviations, refer to the "Guidance Notes on Codes and Abbreviations" appearing at the beginning of each regular issue of the PCT Gazette.

(54) Title: EXPRESSION OF DC-SIGN BY MACROPHAGES AND METHODS OF TREATING AND DIAGNOSING RHEUMATOID ARTHRITIS

(57) Abstract: The C-type lectin DC-SIGN is absent in normal synovium but is highly expressed by CD68 positive macrophages in the synovium of rheumatoid arthritis patients. Accordingly, rheumatoid arthritis is diagnosed or treated by, respectively, assaying or blocking DC-SIGN. This can be accomplished by the use of agents, e.g., antibodies, which bind specifically to DCSIGN. Agents that bind to ICAM-3 are used to block inhibition of activation of macrophages by DC-SIGN-ICAM-3 interaction and cause inhibition of rheumatoid arthritis symptoms.

WO 2004/026909 A2